

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 COME-00 /094 W
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P 162343Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7959
INFO DOE GERMANTOWN MD
DOE WASHDC

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FOR OES/NET

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, JA
SUBJECT: JAPAN, GERMAN, FRENCH AGREEMENT ON FAST BREEDER
REACTOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

1. BOTH JAPANESE AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS REPORTED
AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPAN, WEST GERMANY AND FRANCE
CONCERNING FAST BREEDER REACTOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.
EMBASSY CHECK WITH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY REVEALED
REPORTS TO BE SOMEWHAT MISLEADING IN TONE BUT BASICALLY
CORRECT.

2. JAPAN'S POWER REACTOR AND NUCLEAR FUEL DEVELOPMENT
CORP. (PNC) AND WEST GERMANY'S KFK PRESENTLY HAVE AN
AGREEMENT COVERING BASIC RESEARCH IN FIELDS OF REACTOR
PHYSICS, SODIUM TECHNOLOGY AND FBR SAFETY, FUEL CYCLE,
MATERIAL AND REACTOR CONCEPT. WHEN THIS AGREEMENT EXPIRES
MAY 25, IT WILL BE RENEWED, WITH FRANCE'S CEA ADDED AS A
NEW PARTNER.

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3. COMMENT: THE JAPANESE ARE COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING
THE FBR. THEY FEEL THAT THEY NEED A PARTNER TO SHARE
COSTS AND IDEAS AND WHILE THEY WOULD PREFER IT TO BE THE
U.S., THEY FEEL THEY WILL HAVE TO SELECT ANOTHER PARTNER
IF NECESSARY. THE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY STRENGTHEN THEIR
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GERMANS AND FRENCH (AND BEGIN TO
ABANDON THE 25 YEAR RELATIONSHIP THEY HAVE HAD WITH US)

HAS COME UP WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY (SEE
DOE CABLE TOKYO 5519). THE INCLUSION OF THE FRENCH CAN
BE TAKEN AS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION. DEPARTMENT MIGHT
WISH TO ASK OPINION OF JUSTIN BLOOM, WHO IS NOW IN
WASHDC FOR SCIATTS CONFERENCE. END COMMENT.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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